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DETROIT NEWS(MI)
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East Lansing

MSU grant under fire

Shui Nee Chow, a Michigan State University mathematics professor, is being criticized for accepting a $740,000, two-year research grant administered by the CIA but awarded and paid for by an office of the U.S. Department of Defense.

The grant will finance research on mathematical ways to detect patterns within chaos. The results might help intelligence agents decode messages radioed in bursts of static, university spokesman Charlie Downs said.

But John Masterson, a fellow mathematics professor, said, "Not only does the CIA appear to be getting into basic research, but they are doing so in such a way that they are circumventing the traditional academic practices." He said he also objects to becoming involved with the CIA.

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